Koordinater: 55°56′54″N 3°12′00″V

Edinburgh Castle

Fra Wikipedia, den frie encyklopædi

Edinburgh Castle ligger på toppen af Castle Rock over bydelen Old Town.

Edinburgh Castle er en historisk fæstning, der ligger på Castle Rock i byen Edinburgh, Skotland. Arkæologer har fastslået, at der har været menneskelig aktivitet på stedet siden jernalderen, selvom det er uklart hvordan disse bosættelser eventuelt har været. Der har eksisteret et kongeligt slot på klippen siden David 1.s regeringstid i 1100-tallet, og det var et kongeligt residensslot frem til 1633. Fra 1400-tallet og fremefter blev slottets rolle som residensbygning mindre og mindre, og i 1600-tallet blev det primært brugt som militærbarakker med en stor garnison. Edinburgh Castles vigtighed som en del af Skotlands nationalarv blev anerkendt i større grad fra 1800-tallet og fremefter, og forskellige restaureringsprojekter er blevet udført over de sidset 150 år. Det var en af de vigtigst fæstninger i Kongeriget Skotland, og var involveret i mange historiske konflikter fra den skotske uafhængighedskrig i 1300-tallet til jakobitoprøret i i 1745. Et forskningsprojekt der blev udført i 2014 identificerede 26 belejringer i slottest 1100-år lange historie, hvilket giver det titlen som "det mest belejrede sted i Storbritannien og et af de mest angrebede i verden".[1]

Kun få af de nuværende bygninger går længere tilbage den såkaldte "Lang Siege" i 1500-tallet, hvor de middelalderlige forsvarsværker for en stor dels vedkommende blev ødelagt af et bombardement fra artilleri. De mest notable undtagelse af St Margaret's Chapel fra begyndelsen af 110-tallet, som bliver betragtet som den ældste bygning i Edinburgh,[2] Royal Palace og Great Hall, der stammer fra begyndelsen af 1500-tallet, selvom interiøret blev ændret meget fra midten af viktoriatiden og fremefter. Slottet huser de skotske regalier, kendt som Honours of Scotland og de to museer Scottish National War Memorial og National War Museum of Scotland har deres bygninger nogle af slottes bygninger. British Army er stadig ansvarlig for dele af borgen, selvom deres tilstedeværelse hovedsagelig er af cerimoniel og administrativ karakter. Nogle af slottets bygninger huser regimentmuseer, der bidrager til stedet som turistattraktion.

Edinburgh Castle drives af Historic Scotland, og det er Skotlands mest besøgt turistattraktion, hvor der skal betales entre, med over 1,4 millioner gæster i 2013.[3] Det fungerer også som baggrund for Edinburgh Military Tattoo under den årlige Edinburgh International Festival, og slottet er derfor blevet et velkendt symbol på ikke bare Edinburgh men for hele Skotland. Ifølge Edinburgh Visitor Survey er det byens mest besøgte turistattraktioner, og mere end 70 % af turisterne i byen besøger slottet.

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- Edinburgh Castle website (http://www.edinburghcastle.gov.uk/)
- Skabelon:Historic-scotland-link
- Scottish National War Memorial website (http://www.snwm.org/)
- Edinburgh Castle (http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/52068/details/edinburgh+castle/), Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland "Canmore" database

- Images of Edinburgh Castle (http://canmore.rcahms.gov.uk/en/site/52068/digital_images/edinburgh+castle/) from the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
- Engraving of view of the North East view of Edinburgh Castle in 1693 (http://digital.nls.uk/slezer/engraving.cfm?sl=59) by John Slezer at National Library of Scotland
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